

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9152

S E C R E T MANILA 15562

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R. PRESIDENT)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

DEPT PASS JAKARTA, PEKING IMMEDIATE

REF: STATE 261710

1. PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT SECRETARY MARC RUIZ CONFIRMS THAT DELAY IN ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO PHILIPPINES IS ACCEPTABLE. HE ALSO INDICATES THAT THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO OFFICIAL PHILIPPINE ANNOUNCEMENT IN ADVANCE OF U.S. STATEMENT.

2. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT WIRE SERVICES AND RADIO ARE ALL CARRYING STORIES DATELINED WASHINGTON WHICH GIVE DETAILED EXPLANATIONS FOR DELAY, REPORTING THE DISEMBARKATION OF ADVANCE PARTY FROM THEIR AIRCRAFT AND PROBABLE DATES OF THEIR NEW TRAVEL SCHEDULE. "OFFICIAL SOURCES" ARE QUOTED AS CONFIRMING VISITS TO INDONESIA AND PHILIPPINES, IN THAT ORDER, AND GIVING PRECISE DATES FOR EACH VISIT.

3. ONE UNFORTUNATE FEATURE OF ALL THIS REPORTING IS STATEMENT THAT INDONESIAN AND PHILIPPINE VISITS WERE ADDED TO CHINA TRIP AS AFTERTHOUGHT IN ORDER TO "DOWNGRADE"

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PEKING TRIP BECAUSE OF CHILLY CHINESE ATTITUDES. IN ORDER

REMEDY THIS ASPECT OF PUBLICITY, I TRUST WHITE HOUSE AND
DEPARTMENT SPOKESMEN WILL BE ABLE ADD A LITTLE FROSTING
TO THE INDONESIAN AND PHILIPPINE STORY IN THE PRESS SESSION
WHICH FOLLOWS THE BARE ANNOUCEMENT OF THESE STOPS.
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

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